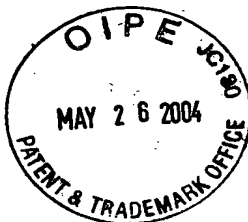


DOCKET NO: 249160US0X



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
TARO AOKI, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: 10/780,640 :  
FILED: FEBRUARY 19, 2004 :  
FOR: HYPERLIPEMIA THERAPEUTIC :  
AGENT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this paper.